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subnet.

Having thus described the invention, it is now claimed:

A method for providing a subnet comprising:
 storing a table associating a subnet with a broadcast key;
 receiving a request for access to a network;
 accessing the table to determine an appropriate subnet; and
 transmitting the broadcast key associated with the appropriate

10 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said request is transmitted by a mobile data processing device.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of a using a separate broadcast key associated with each VLAN to encrypt the data.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the subnet comprises a wireless LAN.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the wireless LAN operates in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the subnet comprises a VLAN.
- 7. The method of claim 6 further comprising a step of tagging data to determine to which subnet the data belongs.

- 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the subnet comprises a mobile IP subnet.
- 9. The method of claim 8 further comprising a step of tagging data to determine to which subnet the data belongs.
  - 10. A subnet comprising:

means for storing a table associating a subnet with a broadcast

key;

means for receiving a request for access to a network; means for accessing the table to determine an appropriate subnet;

and

means for transmitting the broadcast key associated with the appropriate subnet.

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- 11. The subnet according to claim 10, wherein said request is transmitted by a mobile data processing device.
- 12. The subnet of claim 10 further comprising a separate broadcast key associated with each VLAN to encrypt the data.
  - 13. The subnet of claim 10 wherein the subnet comprises a wireless LAN.
- 14. The subnet of claim 13 wherein the wireless LAN operates in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

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